

Blues' unbeaten run just keeps getting longer



VIEW FROM THE STAND

WITH
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TEN wins, 11 draws and still no defeats. Wanderers unbeaten run is rapidly growing into legendary 'Mousetrap' proportions.

However, unlike the long running Agatha Christie murder mystery, Wanderers' heroes, villains and plot lines change with every performance.

Last midweek against Boston, almost all the team would have struggled to pass water, yet alone the football. Heroes were certainly in short supply, whilst Rob Lee had a nightmare first half in the villain's role and was soon replaced by his young Argentinian understudy. Thankfully Matt Bloomfield swept home a stylish equaliser to save our unbeaten record.

In complete contrast, the passing and movement in Saturday's match with Rochdale was crisp, precise and incisive. This time Rob Lee was centre stage giving an immaculate performance.

There were heroes all over the pitch for Wanderers while Rochdale seemed to have a whole team of villains, especially when they went two goals down. It was little wonder they picked up four yellow cards and two reds for their bully boy tactics.

Having seen the way he lashed out at Roger Johnson, it's hardly surprising to see their top striker Grant Holt heads the league's villain list for fouls committed with a tally of 55.

He also leads the cards table with seven yellows and one red. To complete an unlikely heroes and villains hat-trick, he is also the division's top goalscorer with 14 league goals. The only disappointment in this excellent performance was our inability to score more goals in the last 20 minutes, when we were playing against nine men. The match resembled a play-ground game of attack versus defence but, sadly, our finishing was awful.

A quick look at the match statistics proves this point. We had just seven shots on target and 13 off target. We also had 11 corners without any of them leading to a goal.

We can't complain too much about our finishing though. We are now joint top scorers in the division with Rochdale on 39 goals. This is despite selling our leading goalscorer. Mind you since Tyson left for Forest, Tommy Mooney has been superb and his partnership with Charlie Griffin has been improving match by match.

This was shown against Rochdale where Mooney grabbed two goals while Griffin got the third goal and two assists for his striking partner.

Next stop for Wanderers' long running success is Bury, the land of the finest black puddings. Let's hope they play like a bunch of puddings and Wanderers come away with another three points. Then we are into the Christmas pantomime season with four league games in eight hectic days, including trips westward to Torquay and Bristol. If our unbeaten run is still intact after all that we should be able to look forward to a very happy new year.

Youths bow out

WYCOMBE'S youth team bowed out of the FA Youth Cup on Wednesday night when they were beaten 5-0 at home to Tranmere Rovers in the third round.

The Blues youngsters actually acquitted themselves well but the difference was in the finishing, with Jamie Garry bagging a hat-trick for Tranmere, allied to strikes by Luke Holden and Craig Curran.

Ikechi Anya went closest for the Blues in the first half.